

Remarks

Claims 12-20 have been amended. Claims 1-11 have been withdrawn. Claims 12-20 are pending in the case.

I. Additional IDS

An Information Disclosure Statement is included with this amendment, listing U.S. Patent No. 5,855,282 to Hardy.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Previously filed claims 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 19 and 20 have been amended and the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections are no respectfully no longer applicable.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 35 U.S.C. 103; Claim Amendments

Previously filed claims 12 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Mattesky. Previously filed claims 13 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 based on Mattesky.

Claim 12 has been amended and now specifies:

12. A method comprising
inserting a pegboard hook into a pegboard;
wherein the pegboard hook comprises
a first plate having a front surface and a rear surface;
a member having a first end and a second end;
an extension having a first end and a second end;
a first prong;
a second prong;
wherein the first prong is fixed to the rear surface of the first plate and protrudes outward
in a first direction from the rear surface of the first plate;
wherein the second prong is fixed to the rear surface of the first plate and protrudes

outward in the first direction from the rear surface of the first plate;
wherein the first end of the member is fixed to the front surface of the first plate and the member protrudes outward in a second direction from the front surface of the first plate;
wherein the first end of the extension is fixed to the front surface of the first plate and the extension protrudes outward in a third direction from the front surface of the first plate;
wherein the extension is comprised of a first portion connected to a second portion, the second portion lying nearer to the second end of the extension than the first portion;
wherein the first portion of the extension is not angled towards the member;
wherein the second portion of the extension is angled towards the member;
wherein the member overlaps the extension; and
wherein the step of inserting the pegboard hook into the pegboard includes inserting the first prong into a first hole of the pegboard and inserting the second prong into a second hole of the pegboard, so that the member lies substantially directly above the extension.

In at least one embodiment of the present invention, a pegboard hook, such as apparatus 10, is inserted into a pegboard, such as pegboard 100. (Present application, Figs. 4A and 4B) The pegboard hook, or apparatus 10, comprises a first plate, such as plate 16, a member 14, a second plate, such as plate 12, an extension 22, and first and second prongs 18 and 20. (Present application, pg. 2, last line – pg. 3, first paragraph, Figs. 1-3). The first plate 16 has a front surface and a rear surface. (Id.) The member 14 has a first end and a second end. (Id.) The extension 22 has a first end and a second end. (Id.)

The first prong 18 is fixed to the rear surface of the first plate 16 and protrudes outward in a first direction from the rear surface of the first plate 16. (Id.) The second prong 20 is fixed to the rear surface of the first plate 16 and protrudes outward in the first direction from the rear surface of the first plate 16. (Id.) The first end of the member 14 is fixed to the front surface of the first plate 16 and the member 14 protrudes outward in a second direction from the front surface of the first plate 16. (Id.) The first end of the extension 22 is fixed to the front surface of the first plate 16 and the extension 22 protrudes outward in a third direction from the front surface of the first plate 16. (Id.)

The extension 22 is comprised of a first portion or straight portion 22a connected to a second portion or angled portion 22b, the second portion 22b lying nearer to the second end of

the extension 22 than the first portion. (Id.) The first portion 22a of the extension is not angled towards the member 14. The second portion 22b of the extension 22 is angled towards the member 14. The member 14 overlaps the extension 22.

The step of inserting the pegboard hook or apparatus 10 into the pegboard 100 includes inserting the first prong 18 into a first hole of the pegboard 100 and inserting the second prong 20 into a second hole of the pegboard 100, so that the member 14 lies substantially directly above the extension 22. (Present application, Figs. 1, 2, 4A, 4B).

Mattesky discloses inserting a pegboard hook into a pegboard. (Mattesky, Fig. 2).

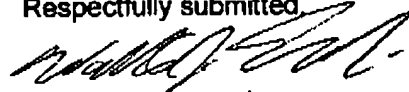
However, Mattesky does not disclose a pegboard hook having a first plate having a rear surface from which first and second prongs protrude and a front surface from which a member and an extension protrude, wherein the extension has a first portion which is not angled towards the member and a second portion which is angled towards the member, and wherein the member overlaps the extension, as claimed in amended claim 12. Mattesky does not disclose inserting a pegboard hook, as claimed in amended claim 12 of the present application into the pegboard so that the member as claimed lies substantially directly above the extension as claimed.

Claim 12 is submitted to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 13-20 are dependent on claim 12 and are submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons. Each of claims 13-20 also has one or more further limitations, which at least in combination, are not shown by the prior art, and are submitted to be allowable for that reason also.

IV. Conclusion

Claims 12-20 are respectfully submitted to be in a condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter J. Tencza Jr.
Reg. No. 35,708
Suite 3
10 Station Place
Metuchen, N.J. 08840
(732) 549-3007
Fax (732) 549-8486